









## De Guzman, former PDI reporter, dies at 40

FORMER Inquirer reporter Ben G. de Guzman died yesterday of heart failure after several days in the intensive care unit of the Philippine Heart Center.

He was 40.

De Guzman started his career in journalism writing for the now-defunct publication Philippine Signet, edited, in 6, McManis and working for the Associated Press.

He was studying at the University of San Tomas then, serving as editor-in-chief from 1984 to 1985 of The Mirror, the official organ of the university's bachelor of arts students.

He also wrote pieces and poems for the university publication.

De Guzman never finished his journalism course after he decided in 1985, as an activist, to register poor communities in Corda.

In December 1985, De Guzman was part of the first batch of reporters who joined the Philippine Daily Inquirer. He covered politics, the Moro National Liberation Front and the communist movement.

He also covered Congress for the Inquirer and became known for his articles on the

poor and on his abuses.

After the Inquirer, De Guzman helped found the Philippine Daily Inquirer Employees' Union with other employees.

He left the Inquirer and joined the Soken newspaper when it was being formed and also worked Congress for the paper.

He was elected recently in a regional board for the Ilocos and Tuguegarao.

De Guzman eventually joined the staff of Speaker Jose de Venecia when the Venecia decided to run for President against Joseph Estrada in 1993.

De Guzman, born on Jan. 9, 1954, was the eldest of five children of former Senate Police Judge and Rep. Isidoro de Guzman.

He left behind his parents and siblings Rosalia de Guzman, Rodolfo Jr. and Emelita de Guzman, Richard de Guzman, Nancy and Gilbert Steven and Freddie and Randy Toledo.

His residence is at the 34, 34th's Funeral Parlor on Larena and 2, Tandang Sora in Manila. On Nov. 13, his remains will be taken to the De Guzman family residence in Jaro, Iloilo City. Interment is on Nov. 16.

## Family, friends send kids to prostitution, study says

IMMEDIATE and close friends sometimes help to recruit children for prostitution in the Philippines, according to preliminary findings of a new study on the crime released here yesterday.

The study by the non-government advocacy group Child Protection, Child Remedy and Trafficking of Children for Sexual Purpose (CPC) also found that many children themselves think they are helping the children.

The report, which comes 74 years and after child prostitution from across the country is one of the few in-house reports on child prostitution in the Philippines, where estimates of the number of child prostitutes are vague.

Report estimated in the 1980s that there were about 60,000 child prostitutes here. Officials have been quoted as putting the number at about 40,000 although some activists have put it as high as 100,000.

The study, to be released in full later in this year, found that recruiters of children for prostitution could be "sometimes family members (as people known to family and friends), group confidence (neighborhood),

or child a friend on child sex trafficking networks."

Other recruiters were parents of neighbors and neighbors who promised the children's families they would find them jobs, she said.

Signaling and recruiters could get a commission of between P100 and P4,000 (around \$10 and \$70 dollars) per child.

The recruiters have "feelings of guilt but they subsequently try to justify they are helping the family and helping alleviate poverty in the community," she said.

There is also a "perceived obligation of children to support the family" that leads many children to be recruited.

Some recruiters initially told the children they would be getting jobs as domestic helpers, factory workers or entertainers. But they later persuaded the children into prostitution, sometimes forcing them to take drugs and often denying them adequate food, sleep and education.

The children, overwhelmingly female, often come from dysfunctional, poverty-stricken, rural families with

many having been abused by parents or siblings in the past, the study found.

The study found most of Filipino children being trafficked are for prostitution and drugs, signaling said, although few groups did not have figures on how widespread the problem was.

The report found that most of the foreign cases of child prostitution were Japanese, Chinese, American and American, signaling said, although many girls considered all countries to be their home.

Gender gaps, Manila, signaling said, a special police unit for children, said the fight against child prostitution was hampered by reluctance of victims to testify and the importance of protection, which often led to victims being abandoned.

Donald Gail, leader of an Australian government working against trafficking, said the forum that the Australian had been conducted by one institution in the Philippines.

This was the highest number of Australian countries on such charges among all Asia-Pacific countries, he said.

—AP









# Oil prices going up, water rates next

By PDI Staff

to have following the extension of US President George Bush which indicated Malabon's belief that the downturn would continue through the rest of the year.

He then said he had been negotiating with only to implement the fuel price hike on a staggered basis.

He also asked for oil companies to raise gasoline prices by P2 per liter and diesel by only P1 per liter under a more orderly scheme to lessen the impact on our public transportation system.

He expected the oil companies to make a final decision on price hike by mid-2005 but he said he would not be able to say for sure.

## Available

Power Secretary Ignacio Lopez said that the extension of the private water concessionaires' contract to Malabon's residents and that with Palawan officials to explore the possibility of the water rate hike.

He also refused to comment on whether he discussed during the meeting.

It is a price leveling but again, the President did not deny that water rates were bound to go up this Christmas along with electricity and cooking gas.

## WHAT WENT BEFORE

### By PDI Research

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER (PDI) has been circulating in 1991. The first water concessionaire, which was the Malabon Water Concessionaire, was established in 1991. It was the first of its kind in the Philippines, and it was the first to be established in the Philippines.

Concessionaires were awarded on the basis of the lowest bid. The concessionaire for Malabon was awarded for a term of 25 years, and it was the first to be awarded for a term of 25 years.

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During the concessionaire's term, the water concessionaire was awarded for a term of 25 years, and it was the first to be awarded for a term of 25 years. The concessionaire for Malabon was awarded for a term of 25 years, and it was the first to be awarded for a term of 25 years.

### Palawan water

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## view yesterday

Aside from the increase of P1, Malabon will charge P2 on some per cubic meter for the fluctuation of the price against the US dollar, resulting in a total increase of P3.27, or 34.36 percent.

## Manila Water

On the other hand, water concessionaire Manila Water will implement an increase of P3.16 per cubic meter to January, which would reflect the increasing rate of inflation, according to the price fluctuation during the third quarter.

MANWA Regulatory and Planning Director Regilio Reyes Jr. said in an interview that the MANWA Regulatory Office has already approved the 18 percent per cubic meter for their foreign currency differential adjustment (FCDA).

He also expected to implement a 10 percent increase in the rate of inflation, which would reflect the increasing rate of inflation, according to the price fluctuation during the third quarter.

He also said that the additional P2, which is still part of the rate fluctuation adjustment approved last year, would be passed on to the customers.

The FCDA allows the concessionaire to recover costs from the price of the US dollar as it pays all dollar-denominated expenses from MANWA and for other loans required to finance various expansion and improvement of pipelines.

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## London from price's fall

FCDA is composed quarterly depending on the appreciation of the peso in the US dollar. This is part of the Amendment No. 1 signed upon by the private firms and MANWA.

If approved by the MANWA Regulatory, Manila Water's 18 percent adjustment will increase to an additional increase of P1.16 per cubic meter. This is an average prevailing rate of P10.00 per cubic meter. A household consuming an average 30-cubic-meter per month may pay P33.77 more.

## Service areas

Manila Water supplies water and sewerage services within its service area of Manila, Quezon City, Makati, Pasig, Laguna, Marikina, and parts of Rizal province. MANWA's service area consists of Manila, Marikina, Pasig, Quezon City, parts of Makati, Calabarzon, Pampanga, Laguna, Marikina, and parts of Rizal province. MANWA's service area consists of Manila, Marikina, Pasig, Quezon City, parts of Makati, Calabarzon, Pampanga, Laguna, Marikina, and parts of Rizal province.



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## DENR fears more woodcutters

By PDI Staff

No such problem is necessary as the wood processors are not from private lands, he explained.

## Private lands

But he also acknowledged that a high demand for charcoal is

however would likely push more suppliers of these products to the wood processors, which may result in confrontation with local residents.

## Any hope

"We just hope the supply will meet the demand and will

come from private lands," he said.

Charcoal consumption in the country averages 8.5 cubic meters per person per year, or a total of 45 million cubic meters a year, according to DENR studies. That's equivalent to one person using up each year a meter

square with a trunk diameter of 1

meter. About 400,000 cubic meters of charcoal are produced annually in the Philippines, according to DENR studies. That's equivalent to one person using up each year a meter



ALSTEF is a check for the Manila Electric Co. (Meralco) to ensure that the power lines are safe and sound.

## DBM releases P9.3B ...

By PDI Staff

The DBM said that this year's income tax is 2 percent higher than last year's P9.1 billion in income tax.

Based on the income and cash flow of employees of national government agencies, state universities and colleges, government-owned and -controlled corporations (GOCCs), government financial institutions

GOCCs, and local government units (LGUs).

## Only for regular

Only regular employees with at least four months of service are eligible for bonuses, with the rest to be granted bonuses on a case-by-case basis.

The bonuses of employees of GOCCs, GOCCs and LGUs will be based on their respective budgets. DBM officials said.

## Bunye told: Write Hallmark cards

By PDI Staff

statements but he said to a suggestion that perhaps there should be a law to stop the Christmas spirit, he said he would not be able to say for sure.

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## Feel-good bits

But Bunye continued his feel-good bits in an apparent effort to lead off public grumbling on the recent increases in the prices of power and of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG).

"Christmas has become an annual celebration because we look at it as a time of gift-giving and joy, and that's the spirit of Christmas," he said.

## and over radio

Denr Secretary Francisco Bunye is spreading the Christmas spirit by writing a happy letter.

He said that the letter was written to the people of the Philippines, and it was the first to be written to the people of the Philippines.

## 'Easy to say'

But Bunye's letter is not so easy to say. He said that the letter was written to the people of the Philippines, and it was the first to be written to the people of the Philippines.

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## Color of Christmas

Reginald said would consider to be the color of Christmas—not as a grade of rice or good thing, but of good quality.

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# Chavez presses case vs Smokey

By Philip C. Tobias

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# Dick bucks Northrail; Noli defends relocation cost

By Michael Lim-Ubec

ADMINISTRATION Gov. Richard Gordon yesterday warned that the \$505-million Northrail project could go the way of the stalled Marikina-Northern Power Plant.

In view of the national project, which costs a whopping \$15 billion, \$500 million is a paltry sum for a rail project, Gordon argued. He also said that the project, involving the reconstruction of the railroads from Marikina City to Clark, is a waste of money.

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# Wish ko lang...



"Na sana'y lumaki ang kita ng gobyerno para lumaki rin ang pondo para sa pampublikong kalusugan, upang mabigyan ng ibayong lunas ang nagkakasakit naming mga anak."

"Dala ng kalinisan, hula hindi muna matatagpuan ang pangangailangan ng aming mga anak kagay (it's) nagkalamalit. Maraming nanay ang mga doktor at narses sa ospital na pangangailangan natin sa larang. Ang kiling ko lang ay ang kalinisan ng mga gamot na pangkalahat sa kalinisan ng aming mga anak. Kung maraming mga doktor sa ospital ang nagkalamalit ng aming mga anak, ang kalinisan ng aming mga anak ay maraming mga doktor sa ospital."

Upang mabigyan ng pag-asa ang mga bulad ni Ailing Marilyn, ito ang mga masari nating gawin:

- Labanan ang pagnanakaw sa kabang-bayan
- Agad tayong magbayad ng tamang buwis
- Huringin na resibo sa ating mga binibili
- At suportahan ang mga panukalang betas para sa dagdag na kita ng pamahalaan.



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DISTRICT 3830

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# Two top Bush officials resign

WASHINGTON—Attorney General John Ashcroft and Commerce Secretary Dan Glickson have resigned, leaving the two most important cabinet positions vacant.

Attorney General Ashcroft's resignation was announced late Tuesday. Glickson's resignation was announced late Wednesday.

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American in lead up to the end of the year, in possible replacement in January.

"I believe that the Department of Justice will be able to find a replacement for Ashcroft in the near future," said a White House spokesman.

"I believe that the Department of Commerce will be able to find a replacement for Glickson in the near future," said a White House spokesman.

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"I believe that the Department of Commerce will be able to find a replacement for Glickson in the near future," said a White House spokesman.

## SALARIES, CBA and WORK-LIFE TURKEYS

The Employers Confederation of the Philippines has released the results of its Labor Market Information Survey (LMIS) for the first quarter of 1994.

The survey shows that the average monthly wage for a full-time employee in the private sector was P1,000.00.

The survey also shows that the average monthly wage for a part-time employee in the private sector was P500.00.

The survey also shows that the average monthly wage for a contract employee in the private sector was P750.00.

**Helping those who can't hear well hear better.**

Hearing loss is not something you need to just live with. There are solutions that can help you hear better.

At Sountex, our hearing aids are designed to help you hear better. They are available in a variety of styles and sizes, and can be customized to fit your needs. They are also available in a variety of colors, so you can choose one that matches your style.

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**Sountex**  
The Hearing Aid Professionals

# Japan on alert after nuclear sub incursion

TOKYO—Japan was on alert Wednesday after a suspected Chinese nuclear submarine entered its territorial waters, setting off a chain of events that could lead to a nuclear war.

The submarine was spotted in the waters off the coast of Japan, and the Japanese government has issued a warning to the Chinese government.

The Japanese government has issued a warning to the Chinese government, stating that the submarine's presence in Japanese waters is a serious violation of international law.

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# US high court asked to block pro-suicide law

WASHINGTON—The Bush administration has asked the Supreme Court to block a law that would allow states to sue for damages if a person commits suicide.

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**Cash Kringle!**

**100 Winners!**

**P1,000,000 worth of prizes!**

**To join:**

1. Buy any 100 pieces of Cadbury products (e.g., Fruit & Nut, Dairy Milk, Hazelnut, Roast Almond, etc.) and collect the serial numbers on the wrapper.
2. Send the serial numbers to the Cash Kringle! office, P.O. Box 100, Manila, Philippines.
3. The Cash Kringle! office will randomly select 100 winners from the entries.
4. The winners will receive a total of P1,000,000 worth of prizes, including cash, travel, and other rewards.
5. The prizes will be distributed to the winners within 60 days of the drawing.
6. The Cash Kringle! office will be responsible for the distribution of the prizes.
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**Cadbury**













# INQUIRER *Southern Luzon*

Editor Jon Benavente  
 Managing Editor: Florio C. Soriano

## Laguna town dreams of 'salad bowl'

By Marlon Raimon  
 Angkor, Laguna

**T**HERES a vegetable revolution in Laguna and what could be the most important element to it is the growing picture of the renewed Underground Cemetery. Built during the Spanish period, the antique burial grounds provide a lush backdrop for television specials every Halloween.

But when it comes to vegetables, it is in Marikina with a cool climate all year round, similar to that of Bogotá in northern Spain.

Beginning this fall, local government officials have decided to take the city and begin building several projects aimed at making the dream of the South-Luzon municipality to become the "Salad Bowl of Southern Luzon."

"High levels of high-value crops which generally grow only in the temperate regions of northern Spain. Now, instead from Marikina and Calabarzon, we can get to Marikina and other parts of Marikina province," he says.

Locals, however, are not so sure. "We're not sure if the climate is right for growing vegetables," says Mayor Benavente.

Located in the northern side of the Marikina River, some 100 km from Manila, more than 1,000 hectares of land in Marikina are devoted to sugarcane and other high-value crops.

"We're not sure if the climate is right for growing vegetables," says Mayor Benavente. "We're not sure if the climate is right for growing vegetables," says Mayor Benavente.

The Marikina could be enough to meet the demand for vegetables in Marikina, if only the city can get the climate to suit its growing crops and good marketing, he said.

### Organic farming

Marikina said they had even changed the name of vegetable identified with Marikina City.

"Yes, we don't have Marikina beans and Marikina beans. But we have plenty of Marikina beans and Marikina beans," he said.



NAGCARLÁN in Laguna grows green to support official activities for a vegetable growing program and a dream to become the "Salad Bowl of Southern Luzon."

Let Congressmen investigate agriculture, said that despite their success in creating the jobs of farmers, some officials were not needed to create the jobs of farmers in Marikina.

One of the Marikina officials said that the Marikina officials are not needed to create the jobs of farmers in Marikina. "We're not sure if the climate is right for growing vegetables," says Mayor Benavente.

He said 1,000 hectares are now under vegetable growing in Marikina. The Marikina officials are not needed to create the jobs of farmers in Marikina.

"We're not sure if the climate is right for growing vegetables," says Mayor Benavente. "We're not sure if the climate is right for growing vegetables," says Mayor Benavente.

### about the Marikina beans

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"We're not sure if the climate is right for growing vegetables," says Mayor Benavente. "We're not sure if the climate is right for growing vegetables," says Mayor Benavente.

## Special tribute for RP's oldest priest

By Marlon Raimon  
 San Pablo City

**F**R. QUIRINO Gloria, the oldest priest in the country and perhaps among the oldest in the world, said that in his 72 years as a priest of the cloth, he had not been without any temptations involving "sex, money, kindness."

Gloria, who will turn 72 years old on March 12, said that at one stage of his life, he almost lost his faith.

While performing his pastoral duties in the parishes of San Pablo, Cavite, Marikina, Marikina, and Marikina, Gloria said that he had not been without any temptations involving "sex, money, kindness."

"We had had some people who were not on track," he said.

Gloria was still influenced by the Society of Jesus and the Society of Jesus, Gloria said that he had not been without any temptations involving "sex, money, kindness."

"We had had some people who were not on track," he said.

Gloria was still influenced by the Society of Jesus and the Society of Jesus, Gloria said that he had not been without any temptations involving "sex, money, kindness."

"We had had some people who were not on track," he said.



FR. QUIRINO Gloria (left), the oldest priest in the Philippines, was honored by a group of people during a ceremony on Dec. 12.

more, he said. Gloria, who had been waiting for his 72nd birthday, said that he had not been without any temptations involving "sex, money, kindness."

Gloria was still influenced by the Society of Jesus and the Society of Jesus, Gloria said that he had not been without any temptations involving "sex, money, kindness."

"We had had some people who were not on track," he said.

Material wealth was, in fact, not his only temptation. He said that he had not been without any temptations involving "sex, money, kindness."

Gloria was still influenced by the Society of Jesus and the Society of Jesus, Gloria said that he had not been without any temptations involving "sex, money, kindness."

"We had had some people who were not on track," he said.

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## What happened to Maricel?

By Marlon Raimon  
 San Pablo City

Maricel Gloria, the oldest priest in the country and perhaps among the oldest in the world, said that in his 72 years as a priest of the cloth, he had not been without any temptations involving "sex, money, kindness."

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FR. QUIRINO Gloria (left), the oldest priest in the Philippines, was honored by a group of people during a ceremony on Dec. 12.

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# Baguio drops plan to draw 1M tourists to salad fest

BAGUIO CITY—Baguio is no longer aiming at drawing a million tourists for the city.

So the fourth staging of the Baguio Tossed Salad Festival, which started a national trend for staging world record feasts as tourism gimmicks, will instead focus on attracting tourists to other parts of vegetable- and fruit-rich Benguet, said Janine Chan, president of the Baguio Association of Hotels and Inns (Bahai).

Chan said the Nov. 26 to 28 festival will not attempt to attract more people than it can feed, and will simply act as a venue for organic and mainstream vegetables produced by Benguet and Mt. Province.

Bahai intends to produce a large salad using 1.2 tons of locally produced vegetables.

Bahai launched the first festival on Sept. 16, 2001 by seeking to set a Guinness world record for tossing the largest caesar's salad in the world. The salad fed more than 5,000 people.

## World records

Although the organizers failed to submit the entry to Guinness, their feat encouraged other towns and

provinces to try to produce their own world records, the Department of Tourism said.

In 2002, Benguet launched the King Carrot Cake project, while Dagupan City launched the longest bangus grill. Various towns in Luzon and the Visayas followed suit.

By 2003, Bahai's largest salads have fed over 29,000 people.

But tourism industry players acknowledged at the end of a two-week long Baguio tourism summit last month that the gimmicks have been backfiring because tourists come in droves for a short period, and rarely spend for these trips.

Benedicto Alhambra, city administrator and concurrent tourism officer, said Baguio now wants to draw "spending" tourists who will benefit a larger sector of the Baguio economy.

Alhambra said the lessons learned from the summit accepted the limitations of Baguio's carrying capacity, and the restrictions provided by its culture.

Developed as a hill station in 1909, the city government's tourism policy should be geared towards servicing visitors' health concerns.

He said this year's tossed salad fes-

tival could test some of these lessons by advocating the eating of vegetables among tourists and residents.

## Healthy options

The vegetable industry had suffered from unfair competition when imported salad vegetables from China and Europe displaced homegrown vegetables from Metro Manila markets two years ago.

Chan said Bahai is coordinating with towns outside Baguio in order to manage a vegetable promotional campaign for the subsequent festivals.

She said Bahai needed to institutionalize the project by drawing the same interactive support of every Baguio resident in the same way schools, parents and students participate in the street dancing portions of the Baguio Flower Festival held every February.

Alhambra said the city is also studying radical reforms in the local tourism trade by adjusting tax incentives, developing new infrastructure and rationalizing Baguio-based festivals to attract "return clients." Vincent Cabrera, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau



## FARM WOES

Groups of farmers picketed the Department of Land Reform office in Quezon City recently to protest low prices of paddy and demand that government put a stop to rice smuggling.

JOHN LACOR

## Woman kills own baby

By Carla P. Gomez  
PDI Visayas Bureau

BACOLOD CITY—A 34-year-old woman, who was suffering from a nervous breakdown, on Tuesday stabbed and killed her 11-month-old daughter inside their home in Himamaylan town, Negros Occidental.

Baby Emily Colendres had four to five stab wounds that included wounds in her heart and liver, said Himamaylan Mayor Carminia Bascon.

She said the mother, Imelda, was being treated for trauma and shock at the Governor Valeriano Garbasa Memorial District Hospital in Himamaylan, about 89 km south of this city.

Emily was the only child of Imelda and husband Lito, a sugarcane worker. The baby would have turned a year old next month.

Lito said he noticed that his wife had shown signs of a breakdown shortly before giving birth to Emily in December last year.

He would catch his wife just staring blankly inside their home at Hacienda Ballesteros, Barangay Canadio-an, Himamaylan.

Lito, however, just ignored the change in his wife's behavior.

Last Sept. 27, Imelda hit her baby in the head with a pipe but Lito did not report the incident to the police because Emily survived.

On Tuesday, Lito noticed that his wife was glaring angrily at him when he was about to leave for work to the sugarcane field that morning.

He, however, ignored it because he did not think she would cause any harm. Lito thought wrong.

Imelda stabbed their baby and then jumped out of the window of their shanty, with the wounded child in her arms. A neighbor, who saw what happened, ran to her and took the baby.

Emily died at the Conzon Lacin Montelibano Hospital.

# DENR agency gives exploration permit to Filipino-Swedish firm

BUGUIAS, Benguet—The Mines and Geosciences Bureau has approved two mining exploratory permits in Baguio and Kalinga this year.

Neoman dela Cruz, MGB Cordillera director, said the Wolfland Resources Inc. has submitted to the MGB all requirements for an exploratory permit.

Dela Cruz said Wolfland, composed of Filipino and Swedish investors, plans to explore gold, copper and silver in a 500-hectare area in Tabuk, Kalinga.

He said the group was able to get the free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) of the Guilayan tribe that occupies the domain in the villages of Guilayan, Magnao and Nambuyan in Tabuk.

"They were able to get the coveted FPIC from the Guilayan tribe so we see no reason to hold off the application," Dela Cruz said.

The Guilayan tribe has a pending ancestral domain application in the area.

But already a group called the Timpuyog Dagiti Mannalon ti Kalinga is questioning the FPIC, saying mining will destroy their livelihood. The group also said the Mananig River, which irrigates the area's rice fields, would be polluted by mining activities.

Dela Cruz, however, said the permit will only cover exploration activities in the area and no actual mining operations will be conducted.

"Mining means a different application and another round of public consultations," he said.

The other exploratory permit that the MGB Cordillera approved was for a 76-hectare area in Barangay Camp 6 along Kennon Road in Baguio.

The Northern Luzon Exploration and Mining Corp. (NLEM) reportedly got the FPIC nod from the Pacey clan, which owns the area. The NLEM is a joint venture between the Phillex Mining Corp. and the Anglo-American Exploration.

The National Commission on Indigenous Peoples said the FPIC was the "consensus of all members of an (indigenous peoples) group) to be determined in accordance with their respective customary laws and practices, free and obtained after the project proponent's full disclosure of the intent and scope of the activity."

The FPIC is the foremost requirement before any project may be introduced in any area covered by the ancestral domain as provided by the Indigenous Peoples Rights Act of 1997.

Dela Cruz said representatives of Wolfland and the NCIP signed a memorandum of agreement last April. Among the provisions cited in the agreement was that Wolfland would provide a "social development participation" fund worth more than P600,000.

Dela Cruz said this includes the repair of a village road and community livelihood funds and scholarships to Guilayan students.

He said an MGB team would visit Tabuk next week to see if Wolfland had complied with the requirements.

Reports said the MGB has approved 16 other exploration permits in Surigao del Norte, Southern Leyte, Camarines Sur, Quezon, Nueva Vizcaya, Compostela Valley and Ilocos Norte, covering 50,000 hectares. Frank Cimara, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau









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**METRO**

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Editor: G. Ocampo  
 Assistant Editor: Conchita B. Bile



#### FULFILLING TRAIL

The Christmas spirit is being brought to the city's streets as the Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA) is calling on residents to deck their balconies and terraces with lights and decorations to celebrate the season.

# QC gives sidewalks back to vendors until January 15

MMDA not aware of mayor's move

By Tina G. Santos

A RESOLVE, and progress: Quezon City is now open.

This was the premise of the Quezon City government as it called for a resolution to its campaign to clear some of the city's main thoroughfares of sidewalk vendors.

The presence of numerous sidewalk peddlers in the metropolitan corridor has caused jams in major roads, according to police.

Mayor Edilberto Rodriguez said the suspension of operations in clear and open sidewalks would be from Nov. 15 to Jan. 15 next year.

The mayor said he granted the vendors' request to the spirit of the Christmas, and that he would provide a livelihood to vendors, particularly those displaced by the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) vendor drive away campaign.

"People do a lot of shopping in Quezon City. We decided to suspend the operation in the spirit of the season," Rodriguez said, adding that there are now about 30,000 sidewalk vendors in the city.

MMDA Chair Bayard Rustifo, however, said he was not aware of the move. "I have not talked to Mayor Rodriguez about this. If there is such a decision, it is illegal," he said.

Rodriguez has ordered Quezon City, assistant city administrator and chief of the Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA), to implement his order.

Executive Order No. 18, issued by Rodriguez on Nov. 3, 2003, directs the MMDA to coordinate with the MMDA and other city government agencies and to work in support prior to any clearing operation.

Meanwhile, Executive Order No. 4, issued in January, mandates the clearance and development of business centers in the city.

As a result, the MMDA identified 148 sites as temporary temporary vending areas, which include the Port Area, Commonwealth and Belvedere markets.

After 1 month of the two orders, the city council passed an ordinance, known as the San Juan Baguio and Security Ordinance, that authorizes the mayor to provide vending spaces for qualified vendors.

However, the local government officials agreed that after Jan. 15, their operations would "go back to normal" as the government to clear the sidewalks of vendors.

They also claimed that the restrictions would not aggravate the traffic in the city since they would make more vendors would take the space offered by the sidewalks, but not the streets.

"We're hopeful that they granted our request," said Mayor Rodriguez, a chief resident in Commonwealth Avenue.

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## RP still not on list of routes for ISR

By Carlos S. Rivas

THE FEDERAL Communications Commission of the United States has declined against putting the Philippine back on the list of up-grown routes for International Simple Radio.

The reason that domestic carriers would have to get prices approved from the FCC is that they could increase international rates, or rates charged for handling international calls, even if it were held within the US bandwidth limit of 10.5 seconds per minute.

National Telecommunications Commission deputy commissioner Jorge Sison said the Philippines was blocked from the list due to the dispute between the Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. and American carrier Access International.

Sison said the FCC had to review the issue between the two carriers before it

could even consider putting the Philippines back on the list of approved routes for ISR.

ISR is a cheaper international direct dial service.

The dispute stemmed from PLDT's decision to cut off international links with Access International because the latter failed to pay international access charges, or the amount charged by the carrier for the calls that pass through the network of another.

PLDT president Ruperto Natividad said, however, that the telecommunications Access International should not affect the country's standing.

"Big foreign carriers such as AT&T Corp. and WorldCom have already contracted with the FCC due to the Philippine-ISR issue, so it is already below treatment rate. Therefore, it should have not have any effect. The dispute is a different matter," Natividad said.

## Mango exports down in '04

By Christine A. Gaylor

800,000 exports are expected to drop down to 41,000 metric tons this year from 47,495 metric tons last year due to reduced ship arrivals to the United States.

Baldwin J. Amos, president of the Mango Importers Association of the Philippines, said production delays were largely to blame for the lower export volume to the United States of 138 metric tons, from 200 metric tons last year.

"We brought lower volumes to US because the production of mangoes in Davao Island is the only qualified source that could be shipped in USA last season, and the US Department of Agriculture inspection were also late," Amos said.

The Philippines has continued to deliver to December 4, 2004 metric tons of mangoes to Japan; 16,400 to Hong Kong and China and around 180 metric tons to Europe would not end New Zealand.

The Philippines is currently the world's eighth largest exporter of fresh mangoes.

The country's biggest markets include Japan, Hong Kong, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, Switzerland and Bel-

gium.

Despite production constraints, Amos is optimistic that the Philippines would soon overcome Mexico, which currently dominates the US market for mangoes.

The country has already exported the \$11 million mango export market of Japan and Hong Kong \$122 million market.

Fresh mango exporters include Amos' H. Lee Marketing Corp., Marican Developments Ltd., and Diamond Star Agro Products Inc.

Amos said prospects remained bright for the industry as exporters have secured permits for the leaves with US Chinese authorities.

This would open the substantial Chinese market of 1.3 billion people to the Philippines' mango exports.

"We expect exports to increase next year as we see higher demand from China as we meet their quarantine requirements," Amos said.

Amos said that the Philippines mango industry agreed to impose good agricultural practices, such as controlling the use of certain pesticides and pesticides.

## A Celebration of Life: ONE YEAR of DSM in the Philippines!

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At the onset of the new millennium, a leading Dutch chemicals company announced its intention of transforming itself into a globally recognized life sciences and specialty company. A highly valued supplier of minerals and ingredients, it has remained hidden behind the brands that millions of consumers worldwide use everyday.

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DSM Nutritional Products Philippines marks a year of doing great business with a grand celebration of life at the Baguio Ballroom of the Manda Peninsula. As the company enforces its commitment to quality of life and healthier living, you too start on DSM to passionately continue to create innovations that respond effectively to the ever changing needs of its customers.

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# BUSINESS

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## DISCLOSURE

**FERRIS** Pacific Inc. will hold its annual stockholders' meeting on Dec. 16 at 5:4 pm. at the Mahuli Sports Club, 1,71 Lucerne Street, Salsbery Village, Mahuli City.

NETS Paula Corp. confirmed that it was still interested in the Skyway project.

**KEPTEL Philippines Marine Inc.** added the words "import" and "export" in its articles of incorporation to reflect the company's intention to engage in import and export activities.

**EDUARDO SUAREZ** resigned as senior vice president and chief business officer of the Philippine Stock Exchange Inc. effective Dec. 31.

WFLA Corp. approved the sale of seven million of its 30.5% television common shares to Singapore Telecom International Pte. Ltd. at \$10.50 per share.

Gov't to ask . . .

For example, the government's estimate of the number of people who are employed in the private sector is based on a survey of the private sector, which is not a representative sample of the population.

algorithm, a tax survey, and the imposition of a performance-based federal antibiotic program for research, collecting research

"We cannot anymore separate blood out of stone. It is clear that what we are doing were already known to us, such as what the

Ministry's leaders said the Philip-  
pines' economic growth is "not

## PSE names new board director

By Elizabeth L. Sarnoff

THE POLYMER Bank Exchange is pushing for the appointment of Kimberly Clark board director Cecilia Perella as a member of its 11-man Board of Governors.

As will tell us the past of independent diversity created by P&G president Francis Lion, who was elected CEO consultant.

Like the former co-managers partners and senior partners of the Angus, Stollis Corporation Supply & Drive Line Offices (MS, CHALAH), took over as P&G price index last Aug. 28.



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He was president and chair of Sturdy-Clark Trust, 1971, until June 1998.

He was also chair of the University of the East and president and director of KY Komatsu Paper Industries from 1992 to 1998.

He is currently Director of Quality Club, University of the East, UEAH Memorial Medical Center, Manila, Commonwealth of the Philippines.

since Philippine Airlines, (P) Sunjet Holdings Inc. and a managing partner of V2G2 Inc.

Shares end down . . .

to the market returns, trading

The X-company Philippine Stock Exchange index ended down 725 points, or 66 percent, at

1,779.43, falling to Monday's 1.5 percent low. Declines led gains: 42 on 28, while 37 stocks went unchanged. The index has declined

Truckers said a Moody's down-grade would increase the borrowing costs of just for the government but

Blue-chip companies with large debts, such as Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co., is

growth the country's villages, and that will certainly impact on their share of income, and not just

PLNT and Globe were the most actively traded, with PLNT falling 2.1 percent to \$1.33 and Globe

The rollout to Clade was very good by now (this April will I million Clade shares, representing

Again said it will use the pro-

each to the debt. After the transaction, Apple's holdings in Glaxo will decline to 33 percent from 40 percent.

## LIFE STYLE

For further inquiries, please contact our advertising (281-0100) and circulation (281-0101) departments.

Editor: Chris Banaag-Fuentes

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Yes, Moomoo Paradise lives up to its name and serves steak, char-broiled and cooked Japanese or Korean style

CHICKEN 69

# Steak lovers' 7th heaven

Text by Rowena C. Bungeo  
Photos by Roger Cayaby

DINNER has become fashionable these days. They gravitate toward restaurants serving culinary offerings that not only tickle the taste buds but are also affordable, and would allow them to come back for more.

"People are not changing their habits, they're changing where they're going. For instance, during lunch time at work, people will not eat, but some choose less expensive restaurants. That's where we are properly positioned," says Abel Garcia, owner of Moomoo Paradise.

Located in District 3, Malab, Moomoo Paradise specializes in grilling meat dishes cooked in Japanese and Korean styles.

Garcia has designed the bright and colorful interior of the 70-seater Moomoo Paradise, a Japanese-style restaurant where the red and yellow interiors "so people will get easily attracted to the place. You have to continuously reinvent your concept so people won't get tired of what they eat and see," Garcia says.

Among the restaurant's attractions are the open kitchen and the salad bar. There are also three cooking tables where diners can sit and observe how their food is prepared.

"We're satisfied that most Filipinos love steak, so when we put up Moomoo, we thought of bringing local meat dishes with a twist. And what steak goes to the spot, we were told, is accompanied by rice. So we have rice, Korean food, Korean barbecue, there's no Korean restaurant in this area," says Garcia. "We hired a chef who worked in a Korean restaurant for some years."

## Budget meals

Moomoo Paradise's menu features appetizers, rice, salad, soup, vegetables, beef, pork, chicken, seafood, bulgogi, Korean 1/2 is cattle and domestic. The restaurant also serves special dipping sauces such as lemon and garlic, honey ginger, soy sauce, sesame pepper, Moomoo sauce, basil green, sweet and spicy, honey wasabi mustard, barbecue sauce and yogurt sauce.

The budget set menu (P495), a set meal for two, includes Miso, Grilled Beef, Grilled Chicken, Beef or Chicken Rice Grilled Bulgogi, Pan Grilled Chicken, plain rice and tea drink.

The Moomoo Special (P570), also for two, has two sets, Grilled Beef, 300-gram Grilled Chicken, Beef or Chicken Rice Grilled Bulgogi, Pan Grilled Chicken, plain rice and tea drink.

A budget meal for three, which costs P495, includes two sets, Moomoo Salad, plain rice, Grilled Beef, Chicken Thigh and Pork belly.

For a group of four, there's the Grill Special Set of 400-gram Grilled Beef, 300-gram

CHICKEN 69



HONEY Butter Glazed Pineapple



PORK Meatloaf

## Steak lovers' 7th heaven

Overseas 13

Grilled Pork Belly, Japanese-style Beef, Seafood Chops, Chef's Special, assorted appetizers, steamed rice, The Korean Set of seafood, Chicken cut, Baked Salmon, Steakhouse, Egg Soup, Kimchi plus another appetizer, rice and ice cream. These set menus, priced at P995, are offered only every Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

The Heavyweight Chosen for the 200-gram 80-day, P295, 250-gram T-bone, P235, 250-gram Chuck E.B., P190, 150-gram Beef Ribs, P240, 200-gram Beef Collar, P145, 150-gram Beef Skewers, P225, 300-gram Beef Collar, P280, and 300-gram Beef Bulgogi, P195.

Most of the ingredients and meats used by Massimo Pizzeria are sourced from Batangas and Bulacan. "We only use natural charcoal for grilling and natural seasonings for the meats," says Massimo.

Massimo Pizzeria, open daily 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., is on the ground floor of Gloria 3, 800a Corrales, Marikina City. Tel. nos. 8151556-8151558.

E-mail the author at [cheer.philippines@gmail.com](mailto:cheer.philippines@gmail.com).



BANANA Kaya with Cream



YUM Steamed Dragon



Grilled Pork Belly



GIORGIO Pizzeria designed the colorful interiors of Massimo Pizzeria.



# LIFESTYLE

Text us your feedback: Inquirer life name/

city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)



SATAY Barbecue Pork

## Expressly Thai



ICE desserts

Text by Regina Rojas  
Contributor  
Photos by Roger Carpio

EVERYTHING is coming up express these days. There are express delivery, supermarket and photo services, among other things. And now, there's express Thai food.

Oody's, the restaurant that made Thai cuisine more affordable and popular in Metro Manila, has opened Oody's Express at the second level of the new Market! Market! in Taguig. Because the new place is smaller than its cousins Oody's-Greenbelt 3 and Oody's-Galleria, service is quicker and prices are even lower.

"All this without sacrificing authenticity and quality," says Maritel Nievera-Shani, the same food empress behind such successes as Oody's and the all-you-can-eat buffet restaurant Cabalen. Oody's Thai chefs came up with the express menu, focusing on authentic street foods of Thailand,

such as Fish Spring Rolls with Peanut Sauce (P55), Fried Spring Rolls with Carrot Sauce (P48) and Fried Fish Balls with Tamarind Sauce (P48). Also: Nam Prik Kapi or steamed vegetables with Thai bagoong (P68); Rad Na or stir-fried noodles with chicken gravy (P85); Pad Siew, also stir-fried noodles with chicken and broccoli leaves, all seasoned with soya sauce (P85) and Thai barbecued chicken (P95), pork (P60), squid (P98) and satsy chicken (P68) or pork (P58).

The Som Thai salad of papaya served with the Thai version of bagoong isda called palaa, and the yaam salad with herbs, spice and lemon dressing for eggplant are definitely value for money at P45 per serving.



THAI Style Chicken/Shrimp



BAGOONG Rice

EXPRESSLY/C4



FRESH Spring Rolls  
in Peanut Sauce





## LIFESTYLE

**SPICED** Abalone with Vegetables in Open Sauce**SMOOTH** Pork with Black Mushroom**SMOOTH** Pork with Black Mushroom

# Definitely a red-letter year

**RED** Table marks its first anniversary by offering a 20-percent discount on its à la carte menu until Nov. 13.

When it opened about a year ago, the restaurant seemed simply to be a Chinese restaurant where there were no high-end Chinese restaurants in the area.

Red Table offers an authentic Hong Kong menu developed by Hong Kong chef Tommy Lee, who has added 17 new dishes to celebrate the restaurant's first anniversary.

Among them, the deep-fried prawns with almonds, the fried eggplant with sweetened toffee sauce, steamed stuffed dumplings with bamboo-fungus in white sauce, scallion pancake, braised sea cucumber and fish ball in seafoam sauce, and more.

Unlike other Chinese restaurants, Red Table serves no rice. MSG, which is probably the reason its prices are a bit higher than the traditional dining places in the area, although they are 30-40 percent lower than those in hotels.

For its first anniversary, Red Table also celebrates a little festival. Carpenters were invited to place the contemporary interior floor tiles.

The furniture room was also renovated to accommodate small 10-table gatherings such as small meetings and office parties.

Red Table Inc. 677-9833, located in 11 South Street in Manila, Ontario, Canada, Tel. 905-711-4111, 11 p.m. to 11 p.m., Monday to Sunday.

**BLEND** Soup**CHICKEN** Barbecue

## Expressly Thai

From page 13

The original Thai restaurant is unique, of course, without copies of the house specialty Pad See Ew, which is ground pork cooked with sweet basil and chili. But Thai, although it's only a few years old, has become a staple in the area.

Thai food is a blend of the exotic and the familiar. And there are no other Thai restaurants in the area. Thai food is a blend of the exotic and the familiar. And there are no other Thai restaurants in the area.

Red Table's Express, open daily from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m., is at 12, Market Street in Global City, Singapore.

**BEET** Chicken in Brown Sauce



# Customs Bureau addresses complaint

WE recently featured a Redox customer's complaint about the delayed delivery of a parcel from the U.S. Along with it, we also mentioned the explanation of a Fedex spokesperson who informed us that the said shipment arrived on schedule, but it was held in customs pending the clearance requirements.

To close the lid on the subject, we are printing below parts of the letter of lawyer Vicente B. Francisco, officer in charge of the customs collection office at Ninoy Aquino International Airport, here goes:

"The undersigned (Vic B. Francisco) instructed the special deputy collector (Danyel Remedios Espinosa) of customs Corporation, the air cargo terminal warehouse where foreign incoming consignments are processed by the Bureau of Customs prior to release, to verify and determine the cause of delay, and to make recommendations designed to eliminate similar occurrences in the future.

"Please find attached hereto the report of Atty. Espinosa together with relevant letters that clearly indicated that there was no delay in the processing and subsequent release of the cargo in question."

Based on the attached letter, we concluded that the consignee had advised Redox he wanted his exemption for the shipment, but decided after several days that he would just pay the required duties and taxes. According to the customs official, the package was delivered the following day to the consignee's office.

## Carelessness at bank's clearing house

How indeed could a check with the missing name of the payee be cashed by a bank's clearing office, and the entire amount disbursed subsequently from the depositor's checking account?

"The bank did not even bother to inform me," complained the depositor, who happened to be our friend Pete Sumpang the publicist.

Sumpang had paid his liberator bill through the bank, not realizing that he forgot to write the name of himself on the check. He said he discovered his mistake a month later when he reviewed the monthly bank statement with the attached bank checks.

"Up to this date, I have been calling up the bank officers to find out if the checks who cleared the said check have been replenished, but it looks like my complaint has fallen on deaf ears. Will the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) render this complaint? I need it."

We contacted the BSP complaint desk and was assured that it would act on Sumpang's case, but he has to file a formal complaint. Other consumers with similar concern are advised by BSP to write to director Itel de la Cruz, Corporate Affairs Officer, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP), Vito Cruz, Manila 1005. Call 529-4832.

## THE CONSUMER

Atencio Velasco  
Giron



According to the customs official, the package was delivered the following day to the consignee's office

trial ng Pilipinas (BSP) 040, Vito Cruz, Manila 1005. Call 529-4832.

## Telemarketing trick

Reader Kyrryn Perez warns consumers about unsolicited calls from strangers who say they are one of the privileged few chosen to receive a gift certificate for an overnight stay at Tagaytay Country Hotel.

The caller will then invite you to be a member of a privilege club that offering discounts in restaurant and business establishments. Her husband, she said, made the mistake of telling the telemarketer to send him more information about the club to his office.

To make the story short, the telemarketer managed to ferret out personal information from Mr. Perez, including access to his Citibank credit card account. The couple found out too late that the telemarketer had already charged the P4,500 membership fee to his credit card account.

"This is sadist. In the first place, my husband did not agree to become a member of

the privilege club," complained Perez.

## Product recalls

As the weather gets colder, we will see more jackets in the market. We watch out for children's jackets with hidden hazards.

Consumer Reports magazine warned that jacket drawstrings could snag or get caught on protruding objects and cause injury, even death. Other hidden dangers are buttons, accessories and zipper tabs that could come off and pose choking hazards.

We thank consumer advocate M. Silva for sending us the following information.

Apple-based computers listed as advisory on its website that has voluntarily recalled certain lithium ion rechargeable batteries sold worldwide from January 2004 through August. The batteries (the 15-inch PowerBook G4 Aluminum woodbook component) could overheat and pose fire hazards.

E-mail the author at [eyng@netcom.ph](mailto:eyng@netcom.ph)



## QUICK, SATISFYING SNACKS

The dinner for fast and tasty meals has inspired Greenwich to come up with new additions to its product lineup. Greenwich introduces Foodbreak Merienda that are light on the pocket. Foodbreak Merienda is a mix of four meals:

Foodbreak Meal A is a duo of slices of Hawaiian Pizza and Hot Spaghetti. Foodbreak Merienda B has two slices of Salsa Ham and Cheese Pizza and Macaroni Salad Plus, Merienda

Foodbreak C includes two slices of Salsa Hawaiian Pizza and Macaroni Salad Plus, and Merienda Foodbreak D

consists of two slices of Salsa Ham and Cheese Pizza and Hot Spaghetti.

All these meals include a regular softdrink and are only P19 each. Offered from 3-4 p.m.

## Free cooking and baking demo

CELEBRATE the holiday season with delicious food and fond Christmas stories at San Miguel Pure Foods Gallery. Guest speakers are in "Christmas Memories and Holiday Treats" with Sylvia Bryson-Gale.

This free cooking and baking demonstration will be held Nov. 27, 1-4:30 p.m. at the San Miguel local office cafeteria, 40 San Miguel Ave., Origen Center, Marikina City (near SM Megamall). Just bring any three empty assorted wrappers of KitKat, Pure Foods-Hershey, Mazaola, Orlino or Movenjo products. Call 5718878 (local 2771, 402, 484 and 483).



**1** COMBINE flour, salt, sugar, yeast and butter in a mixer. Cover and refrigerate.



**2** ADD milk and eggs.



**3** USE a dough hook just knead for three minutes on the lowest speed.



**4** REMOVE from mixing bowl and place on floured table. Shape into smooth ball by "cupping" and twisting dough. Elastic dough will form about 440 g balls.



**5** MARINATE dough and flatten out to about 1/2 inch.



**6** MARK the bottom edge from you and fold it to the middle.



**7** STRETCH the end of your hand, press down to seal the edges.



**8** MARK the top edge and fold toward the middle, seal the seams.



**9** REPEAT procedure twice, for a total of four folds. Finish bottom of dough and lay on a greased bread pan. Elastic goes to the rear of the dough.



**10** CORE with a cleaver (or) designed for 18 minutes.



**11** ONCE dough has doubled, place in a proofed 180°F oven and bake until golden brown, about 20-25 minutes.



**12** UNMOLD on rack and let cool.

## Brioche in one hour

Test and photos by J. Gendron

I AM really not a baker or a pastry person. For many years, I've been a strictly hot kitchen kind of chef.

Many chefs on this map are either one or the other—a pastry chef baker or a culinary hot food chef. But off to those who have the gift of doing both.

You have to be very close with the pastry and baking arts.

Everything is measured, and precision is required.

My 18 months of experience, chemistry and, in a certain extent, biology.

Luckily, my pastry chef friends know this about me, so they give me the best proof version of their recipe.

This recipe comes from pastry chef Ann Ching of Les Patisseries in Singapore.

Homemade brioche is great for toasts and sandwiches, but at Chikade we use them in a special way: served with our seasonal house warmers and hot "mushrooms," or used as the

Here is a foolproof version of this French loaf that makes great toasts and sandwiches

base for our famous and delicious pork with "spicy" hot chicken drink.

Recipe: 1 loaf

**Ingredients:**

- 1 kg bread flour
- 15 g salt
- 20 g sugar
- 20 g yeast
- 150 g butter, softened
- 225 ml milk
- 5 eggs
- 4 ggs (1 1/2" x 4") for baking pans

Makes four loaves



SLICE and enjoy your homemade brioche!